



California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	10-21-03	Interpretation	03-026
Topic	Occupant Load and Visual Devices		
Code Section(s)	§3505.1, California Building Code (2001 ed)		
Requested by	Richard Benton University California/San Diego 9500 Gilman Drive #0920 La Jolla, CA 92093-0920		

1. ***What factor should be used for establishing the occupant load for a small break-out or study room in adult education facility?***

The use of this space most closely resembles a meeting or conference room. Therefore, the occupant load factor should be 15 square feet per person.

2. ***After applying the occupant load factor, when are visual notification appliances required for a break-out or study room?***

Visual notification appliances are must be installed whenever the building is required to be provided with a fire alarm system. §3505.1, 4-4.5 requires visual notification in all meeting rooms and common-use areas in buildings provided with fire alarm systems.